

Agenda Date: 6/5/02 Agenda Item: 3B

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102 www.bpu.state.nj.us

CABLE TELEVISION

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IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF) RENEWAL
CABLEVISION OF OAKLAND, LLC. FOR) CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL
RENEWAL OF A CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL)
TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN)
A CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM IN THE)
BOROUGH OF POMPTON LAKES, COUNTY)
OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY	,)

DOCKET NO. CE02030151

Schenck, Price, Smith & King, Morristown, New Jersey, by James Eric Andrews, Esq., for the Petitioner.

Borough Clerk, Borough of Pompton Lakes, New Jersey, by Carol Kehoe, for the Borough.

BY THE BOARD¹:

On June 24, 1981, the Board granted Micro-Cable Communications Corp. d/b/a UA-Columbia Cablevision of New Jersey ("UA-Columbia") a Certificate of Approval, in Docket No. 802C-6643, for the construction, operation and maintenance of a cable television system for the Borough of Pompton Lakes ("Borough"). Subsequently, UA-Columbia underwent internal restructuring and was doing business as United Artists Cable of New Jersey ("United Artists"). In Docket No. CO92080822, United Artists informed the Board that it would do business as TCI of Northern New Jersey ("TCINNJ"). On November 16, 1992, the Board approved the petition and recognized the name change. TCINNJ underwent further restructuring and informed the Board that it would no longer use the name Micro-Cable Communications Corp. and would now use the corporate name of TCI of Northern New Jersey, Inc. ("TCINNJ, Inc."). On March 31, 1993, the Board granted UA-Columbia a Renewal Certificate of Approval for the Borough in Docket No. CE92111048.

¹ Commissioner Carol J. Murphy did not participate in the deliberations or vote on this matter.

On December 17, 1997, the Board approved the transfer of the Certificate of Approval for the Borough from TCINNJ, Inc. to Cablevision of Oakland, Inc. ("Cablevision"), in Docket No. CF97090674. On January 25, 2002, Cablevision informed the Board that, as part of an internal reorganization approved by the Board on January 3, 2002, in Docket No. CO00030182, it would now be known as Cablevision of Oakland, LLC ("Petitioner"). Although the Petitioner's Certificate expired on June 24, 2001, it is authorized to continue to provide cable service to the Borough pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-25.

The Petitioner filed an application for the renewal of its municipal consent with the Borough on September 25, 2000, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-23 and N.J.A.C. 14:18-13. The Borough, after public hearing, adopted a municipal ordinance granting renewal consent on October 10, 2001. On October 30, 2001, the Petitioner formally accepted the terms and conditions of the ordinance, as amended, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 48:5A-24.

On March 4, 2002, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-16, the Petitioner filed with the Board for a renewal of its Certificate of Approval for the Borough. The Board has reviewed the application for municipal consent, the petition for a Renewal Certificate of Approval and the municipal consent ordinance. Based upon this review and the recommendation of the Office of Cable Television, the Board HEREBY FINDS the following:

- 1. The Petitioner possesses the requisite legal, character, financial and technical qualifications for the awarding of a Renewal Certificate of Approval. Further, the Borough reviewed these qualifications in conjunction with the municipal consent process. See N.J.S.A. 48:5A-22 to 29 and N.J.A.C. 14:18-13.
- 2. The design and technical specifications of the system shall ensure that the Petitioner provides safe, adequate and proper service.
- 3. The Petitioner has represented that all previously required construction within the franchise territory is complete.
- 4. The franchise period as stated in the ordinance is five years from the date of issuance of this Certificate. The Board finds this period to be of reasonable duration.
- 5. The Petitioner's rates shall be regulated and tariffs shall be filed for all services, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission, the Board and the Office of Cable Television. The Petitioner shall maintain informational tariffs for unregulated service rates and promptly file any revisions thereto.
- 6. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-26(b), the ordinance specifies a complaint officer to receive and act upon complaints filed by subscribers in the Borough. In this case, it is the Office of Cable Television. All complaints shall be received and processed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 14:17-6.5.
- 7. The Petitioner shall maintain a local business office or agent for the purpose of receiving, investigating and resolving complaints. The current local office is located at 40 Potash Road in the Borough of Oakland, New Jersey.

- 8. The franchise fee to be paid to the Borough is specified to be 2% of the Petitioner's gross revenues from all recurring charges in the nature of subscription fees paid by subscribers for its cable television reception service in the Borough. Additional regulatory fees shall be paid to the State in an amount not to exceed 2% of Petitioner's gross operating revenues derived from intrastate operations. The Board finds these fees to be reasonable.
- 9. The Petitioner shall install cable in all residences in the Borough at tariffed rates for standard and non-standard installation. Commercial establishments shall be constructed in accordance with the Petitioner's commercial line extension policy attached to this Certificate as Appendix "I".
- 10. The Petitioner shall provide public, educational and governmental ("PEG") access channels and facilities in accordance with its renewal application and the ordinance. Specifically, the Petitioner shall provide one channel for dedicated use by the Borough for non-commercial PEG access usage. Upon notification from the Borough, the Petitioner shall install a dedicated fiber return feed at Pompton Lakes High School to permit the Borough to originate programming.
- 11. The Petitioner shall purchase for the Borough's use, at a cost not to exceed \$8,000.00, the following PEG access equipment: a) one S-VHS camcorder; b) one S-VHS recorder; and c) one "Titlemaker" character generator.
- 12. Upon request by the Borough, the Petitioner shall provide free access training for Borough residents at its Oakland studio.
- 13. The Petitioner shall provide the standard installation and monthly basic service, free of charge, to the following locations in the Borough: a) Lenox School; b) Windsor School; c) St. Mary's School; d) Borough Board of Education; d) Lakeside School; e) Lincoln School; f) Borough library; g) Borough high school; h) municipal building; i) first aid squad; j) fire department; and k) DPW.

Based upon these findings, the Board <u>HEREBY CONCLUDES</u>, pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:5A-17(a) and 28(c), that the Petitioner has sufficient financial and technical capacity and meets the legal, character and other qualifications necessary to construct, maintain and operate the necessary installations, lines and equipment and is capable of providing the proposed service in a safe, adequate and proper manner.

Therefore, the Petitioner is <u>HEREBY ISSUED</u> this Renewal Certificate of Approval as evidence of Petitioner's authority to construct and operate a cable television system within the entirety of the Borough.

This Renewal Certificate is subject to all applicable State and federal laws, the rules and regulations of the Office of Cable Television, and any such lawful terms, conditions and limitations as currently exist or may hereafter be attached to the exercise of the privileges granted herein.

The Petitioner shall adhere to the operating standards set forth by the Federal Communications Commission's rules and regulations, 47 <u>C.F.R.</u> Section 76.1 <u>et seq.</u> Any modifications to the provisions thereof shall be incorporated into this Certificate. Additionally and more specifically, the Petitioner shall adhere to the technical standards of 47 <u>C.F.R.</u> Part 76, Subpart K.

Failure to comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations and orders of the Board or Office of Cable Television and/or the terms, conditions and limitations set forth herein may constitute sufficient grounds for the suspension or revocation of this Certificate.

This Renewal Certificate is issued on the representation that the statements contained in the Petitioner's applications are true, and the undertakings therein contained shall be adhered to and enforceable unless specific waiver is granted by the Office of Cable Television pursuant to the authority contained in N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1 et seq.

This Certificate shall expire five years from the date of its issuance.

DATED: June 10, 2002 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
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BY:

(signed)

JEANNE M. FOX PRESIDENT

(signed)

FREDERICK F. BUTLER COMMISSIONER

(signed)

CONNIE O. HUGHES COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

(signed)

KRISTI IZZO SECRETARY